(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Coconut Development Board sponsored development of this technology with financial assistance of about Rs. 2.80 Lakh.

(d) and (e) DFRL, Mysore plans to transfer this technology to private industry on non-exclusive basis. Transfer of technology to each industrial unit will fetch a revenue of Rs. 300 lakh, which will be shared equally between Coconut Development Board and DFRL, Mysore.

Malaria

5630. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have promised to provide assistance to Haryana Government to combat malaria in the Mewat region;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of assistance provided;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action Union Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) During the visit on 23rd November, 1996, to the Mewant are a of Gurgaon District of Haryana, the then Prime Minister had directed that assistance to combat malaria should be provided to the area. As per the technical assessment of the conditions prevailing in the affected blocks and the population to be covered, insecticides, microscopes, fogging machines and general medicines including from tablets and Jeeps and Trucks costing around Rs. 3.54 crores have already been supplied to the State or under the process of supply.

Apart from this, special medicines and anti-TB durgs have also been sanctioned for use in the affected areas.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

AIDS

5631. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of AIDS due to Blood provided by some Blood Banks have come to the notice of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and preventive measures being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TAXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per reports available HIV transmission by transfusion of blood and blood products ranges between 6-8 per cent.

2. Drugs and Cosmetics Act/Rules provide mandatory testing of blood for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

3. Establishment of a network of HIV testing facilities in the form of 154 Zonal Blood Testing Centres with linkages provided to blood banks located in the government, voluntary and public sector.

4. The blood Safety component of National AIDS Control Programme presently under implementation provides assistance in the food of cash and commodity towards modernisation of 315 blood banks and 40 Blood component Separation Facilities.

5. At presantation of the voluntary blood donation programme.

Improvement of National Highways

5632. SHRI SHYAM LAL BANSHIWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan to improve the condition of National Highways in the country during 1997-98; and

(b) if so, the details thereof in respect of Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1997-98, 14 Road Works (estimated cost Rs. 20.00 crores) and 7 Bridge Works (estimated cost Rs. 12.00 crores) are purposed to be sanctioned in respect of Rajasthan.

Rural Water Supply

5633. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) total allocation of funds under Rural Water